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# Christian Science Sentinel



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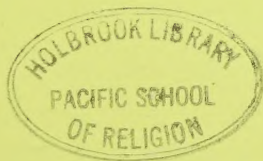
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"What I say unto you I say unto all, WATCH."—Jesus

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The past has no hold

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Founded in 1898 by Mary Baker Eddy,  
Author of the Christian Science Textbook,  
*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*



Marca Registrada

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# Christian Science Sentinel®

Marca Registrada

“What I say unto you I say unto all, WATCH.” Jesus

## Praying from the standpoint of intelligence

MARY LLOYD MILLS

Most of us have felt troubled at times by crisis situations, disease, lack, feelings of inadequacy, fear. Is there a sure way of solving these problems? Prayer, as explained in Christian Science, brings healing answers.

But *how* do we communicate with God?

Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, gives us this guideline: “Thought passes from God to man, but neither sensation nor report goes from material body to Mind. The intercommunication is always from God to His idea, man.”<sup>1</sup> Thus our communication, our prayer, can be seen as God’s—Mind’s—revealing of Himself in true thought.

Jesus said, “Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.”<sup>2</sup> Thus we can see that we don’t need to inform the all-knowing God of anything, nor do we think of



Him as a giant ear listening to people's problems. God is Truth, which is always expressing truth.

Christ Jesus instructed us to pray quietly. "When thou prayest, enter into thy closet."<sup>3</sup> Prayer is not something used to impress others or to impress God. Prayer is letting Love fill our mentality with truth. Truth removes false thoughts and mortal misconceptions that argue the presence of problems. Quiet turning to God in scientific prayer establishes the power of Mind in our lives and shuts out offending suggestions of materially based thinking.

Scientific prayer is not praying *to* God for blessings needed. Instead, we pray as Mind's reflection. This prayer acknowledges man's oneness with God. More than a person *here* communicating with a God *out there*, it is Mind revealing itself as ever present, the only Mind of man.

In praying scientifically, we start with the highest concept of the perfect Mind and reason from there as to what is true of man as Mind's perfect likeness. As we let Christ, Truth, fill consciousness with spiritual reality, this reality corrects the mistaken belief that man is a mortal with many human problems to solve. Prayer awakens us to see the truth of our spiritual relationship to God as His divine idea. Responding to Mind's guidance, we act intelligently to demonstrate the spiritual reality in place of what appears to human sense to be afflictive.

As our knowledge of God and His creation expands through enlightened study and application of the truths found in the Bible and in Mrs. Eddy's writings, our prayer becomes an inspired realization of what God is and what man is as God's reflection.

The term "scientific" means that certain rules or procedures, if followed, will bring recognizable results. This is true of scientific prayer. As we pray—as we turn wholeheartedly to God, knowing God as the source of our true thought and understanding—this clear truth casts out whatever wrong thinking or ignorance we may be indulging. Acceptance of the evidence of the five physical senses is the basis of any difficulties we may seem to have. As wrong thinking is replaced with spiritual reality, our daily experience is changed. And as Truth unfolds in our under-

standing, it becomes evident as good in our daily lives. This is the certain result of scientific prayer.

Recognizing the presence of Spirit, we have dominion. Rising above the concept of ourselves as imperfect mortals pleading with God to give us help, we are conscious that Love's support is already present. Love's benefits are ever pouring forth, for God is the inexhaustible source of good. The answers to our questions are always at hand, for Truth is invariably asserting its own reality.

If problems persist, perhaps we have not been ready to accept God's answers and put them into practice. A willingness to listen to Truth and to persevere in putting into practice Mind's intelligent guidance will bring us success in finding healing solutions.

To live in obedience to God is to live our prayer. How do we do this? We can begin by adhering to the disciplinary demands the Bible makes on us to follow the Ten Commandments, to heed Jesus' admonition to love one another, and to cast out all evil. Continually watching our thinking, we accept only God-like thought—spiritual intuition, right thinking—as our true thought. We can learn that the claims of material sense—suggestions of limitation and fear—are false. They can be rejected and eliminated by letting in the light of the Christ.

One day I was working on the accounts for an organization for which I was treasurer. The books didn't balance. I carefully checked the figures. Not willing to give in to frustration, I closed the books for a moment and turned to God. I prayed in this fashion: As God's child, I reflect the activity of Mind. Mind's intelligence is always available. The effect of this is that I know whatever I need to know, and Mind's answer is here for me. My prayer concluded with great gratitude simply to be able to know this truth.

I endeavored to pray from the standpoint of Mind, knowing I reflected intelligence as a quality of my true nature. I expected the right answer, and I was already grateful. Then I opened the books, and my eye caught a specific column of figures. As I checked it, the mistake almost jumped out at me, and I quickly made the correction.



Such immediate answers are what we can expect as prayerful, quiet, selfless thought allows us to see past the evidence of the material senses and to be the reflection of Mind. When we base our lives on a sincere desire to follow God's leading, our prayers will be answered.

<sup>1</sup> *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 284; <sup>2</sup> Matt. 6:8; <sup>3</sup> v. 6.

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## Who is in the driver's seat?

EDNA MAY EVANS WHITE

A television commentator reported not long ago on heavy congestion on a major freeway. He indicated that drivers these days are becoming frustrated because they can't drive as fast as they want to or change lanes easily. There are increasing instances of violence on the highways, with people using their vehicles as instruments of destruction, ramming them into other cars.

How can you and I help correct such lawlessness? Through scientific prayer. Mrs. Eddy writes of those who discern Christian Science: "They will aid in the ejection of error. They will maintain law and order, and cheerfully await the certainty of ultimate perfection."<sup>1</sup>

We can realize that every driver on the road—indeed everyone—is actually God's spiritual reflection, endowed by his Maker with goodness and intelligence. God is Mind, and Mind is the source of all intelligence, the source of individual spiritual consciousness, the real identity of man. There is no other Mind, no other source of wisdom, direction, understanding. We can know that every driver is under the control of that one Mind. Man is not a lawless, incompetent, frustrated mortal.

A friend commented that one has to drive for five people:

himself, the one in front, behind, to his right, and to his left. My friend seemed to be implying that he was the only one of the five able to drive lawfully and safely. He was, in effect, trying to create for himself a safety zone in what he believed to be a sea of error. But God's creation is not dualistic. It is not a mix of ignorant, imperfect mortals and wise, law-abiding mortals. God's universe is filled with spiritual ideas, all expressing wisdom and perfection. The Bible asks: "Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us?"<sup>2</sup>

In today's fast-moving world, we might take a moment or two before driving to affirm the spiritual fact that we are inseparable from Mind, completely safe in God's care, divinely directed; that we and all other drivers on the road have the wisdom and ability to drive safely. Our Leader, Mrs. Eddy, tells us, "Know, then, that you possess sovereign power to think and act rightly, and that nothing can dispossess you of this heritage and trespass on Love."<sup>3</sup>

Calmness, thoughtfulness, courtesy, patience, are God-derived qualities—qualities of the Christ that each of us can express. As we work to bring out these qualities ourselves, we will look for and expect to see them expressed everywhere. This will help lift from mankind the false, limiting concepts that characterize the counterfeit of man, the mortal, who is a myth.

There is no victim and no villain in God's kingdom. Each of us is always in his right place in the presence of God. Recognizing this, we'll see less elbowing, less pushing, on and off the highway.

As we are obedient to Mrs. Eddy's directive in *Science and Health* we will contribute to the reduction in accidents and violence on our highways. She writes, "Accidents are unknown to God, or immortal Mind, and we must leave the mortal basis of belief and unite with the one Mind, in order to change the notion of chance to the proper sense of God's unerring direction and thus bring out harmony."<sup>4</sup> We can "leave the mortal basis of belief" by knowing that whoever is in the driver's seat is actually the child of God, manifesting every Godlike quality.

<sup>1</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 97; <sup>2</sup> Mal. 2:10; <sup>3</sup> *Pulpit and Press*, p. 3; <sup>4</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 424.

## No start, no finish

What sort of start did I have in life?  
But I never *did* have a start in Life.  
I have been forever, for as long as God,  
And long before this shadowy world was, or seemed to be.

Mind is forever. I am Mind's idea,  
Quite outside time, coexistent in eternity.  
I never did begin, nor will I ever end.  
I reflect the I AM THAT I AM,  
And so I have no fear  
Of coming or going  
Here or hereafter.  
I know there is only here, and now, and I AM.

Know? Yes, I know it,  
Even if I don't fully understand.  
But day by day, here a little and there a little,  
Some small taint of mortality peels off,  
Reveals immortal selfhood—  
My real being as His living witness.  
I trust where I cannot see,  
Walk where I cannot run,  
Wait on Him when I cannot walk,  
And give thanks always that all is very well.

ROSEMARY COBHAM



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# Christian Science and masculinity

[Written for the **Sentinel**]

I tried to convince myself I really did love her. The long letters I wrote from school would, I hoped, convince her too. I was actually relieved when she saw through it. Her last letter read: "I was surprised at first that you took an interest in me, and I asked myself over and over again why. I now know the answer—sex." Suddenly an exploit that I had thought proved I was a man seemed totally empty. I had only succeeded in deceiving and hurting someone and in lying to myself. I wondered how the other high school sophomores in my dorm could brag about their experiences and not feel a little foolish inside.

Another frequent topic of conversation back in the dorm revolved around who among the faculty and students was probably a homosexual. During spring vacation in ninth grade I'd unwittingly allowed myself to be courted by a homosexual, and the fear that perhaps his attentions meant that I was one too began to gnaw at me. I became nervous about displaying any mannerisms that might be considered effeminate and wondered if perhaps my name hadn't come up for addition to the list of suspected deviants.

How ridiculous and sad all those fears and my method of resolving them seem now in the light of Christian Science. I've since learned that looking to the physical to resolve uncertainties about one's identity can only result in deeper confusion, since Science reveals that man's real identity is entirely spiritual.

"But," you may object, "doesn't Christian Science teach that man is made in the image of a God who is both Father and Mother, and that man is therefore male *and* female? How can such a teaching ever make someone more manly?"

The claim that an understanding of man's completeness as in-

cluding both male and female can resolve a boy's, or a man's, anxieties may at first seem paradoxical. To clarify the point, we might examine what happens when physical healing occurs in Christian Science. If someone with an injured hand were to ask for Christian Science treatment, the practitioner might realize through prayer that man's true identity as God's likeness is never less than whole and intact, never touched or marred by any material circumstance; that matter is unreal, substanceless, and therefore powerless to damage one iota of man's being.

The result of applying the spiritual facts to the case would not be the disappearance of the patient's hand but its restoration to normalcy. In the same way, the progressive demonstration of spiritual identity does not do violence to the human sense of normalcy. It brings a rich perception of our spiritual wholeness. Sexuality is not instantly abolished but subordinated and redeemed. In an article entitled "Wedlock" Mrs. Eddy writes: "In the order of wisdom, the higher nature of man governs the lower. This lays the foundations of human affection in line with progress, giving them strength and permanence."<sup>1</sup>

The terms "male" and "female" in their true spiritual sense have no physical, sexual significance; instead they indicate facets of God's nature that are inseparable. True strength is distinct but not divorced from tenderness, nor is love from firmness. It is the human mind that would set these companion qualities at odds. Jesus said, "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."<sup>2</sup>

One, in effect, tries to put male and female asunder when he seeks to prove his maleness by exploiting a girl's or woman's momentary weakness when he should instead support and protect her moral integrity. Any feelings of "I guess that proves I'm a man" are at best temporary and unsatisfying—but most of all inaccurate—because such an attitude ignores what the real man and true manliness are.

What a travesty of manliness is egotistic assertiveness when compared to the spiritual potency of Christ Jesus' healing career! One thinks of Jesus' God-derived authority in casting out unclean spirits; his spiritual boldness in refuting the physical evidence of death at Lazarus's tomb and of lack when faced with

the hungry multitudes; his moral courage in standing up to the harassment and scorn of the religious leaders of his day; his heroic calm when facing the accusations of the high priest and the council prior to his crucifixion.

His manliness was not subverted but complemented by his tender concern for others. Even during the torment of the crucifixion he saw to it that John would care for Mary. Only the depth of his love for mankind, his almost maternal yearning to show it the way out of misery and ignorance, could have sustained him in the face of unrelenting opposition and ridicule.

By firmly grounding ourselves in the awareness that we are in reality the sons of God, as Jesus taught, we shed the anxieties attending the belief that identity is derived from parental genes and can later be battered, marred, and twisted by poor upbringing and unsavory experiences.

Self-doubt, fear of how others may be judging us, can only thrive on ignorance of what God and man are. On the other hand, the knowledge that divine Love's activity is all that is happening, all that has in reality ever happened, and that we are the eternal evidence of His allness, wipes out the conviction that somewhere along the line we got messed up. Nothing could ever deface God, since nothing external to Him exists. No evil has ever impaired or defiled God's perfect expression, the individualized reflection of divine consciousness, man. Whether or not we come across as sufficiently masculine doesn't concern us when we are instead preoccupied with seeing those around us as God knows them, and with seeing ourselves in this light too.

Speaking of the growth through which we advance in Christian Science, our Leader, Mrs. Eddy, writes, "And scientific growth manifests no weakness, no emasculation, no illusive vision, no dreamy absentness, no insubordination to the laws that be, no loss nor lack of what constitutes true manhood."<sup>3</sup> Science can only liberate us from the psychological stereotypes that would squeeze people into a flawed version of manhood. And it does so without threatening in the slightest a single legitimate element of our present sense of identity.

<sup>1</sup> *Miscellaneous Writings*, p. 287; <sup>2</sup> Matt. 19:6; <sup>3</sup> *Mis.*, p. 206.



# The past has no hold

FEROL AUSTEN

“‘The horror of that moment,’ the King went on, ‘I shall never, *never* forget!’

“‘You will, though,’ the Queen said, ‘if you don’t make a memorandum of it.’”

This tickling bit of dialogue from Lewis Carroll’s *Through the Looking-Glass* gives a hint of how easy it would really be for us to let go of a painful experience or an unhappy past simply by not constantly baiting ourselves with mental memoranda about it.

Apparently living in the present but being afraid to think of the past or to visit places or see friends connected with it isn’t living in the eternal now of God’s goodness. If we are uneasy about the past, we haven’t really left it at all, and our thoughts about it will continue to color our lives.

*Now* is the time, and there has never been any other. Paul, from the depths of his own experience and through his understanding of Christ Jesus’ teachings, said, “Now is the day of salvation.”<sup>1</sup> In Christian Science we not only learn that our true, spiritual selfhood is the perfect likeness of God, but we are called upon to prove this daily by expressing His intelligence and goodness in everything we do. If we are loving and living according to our highest understanding of divine Truth and Love, and if this understanding is coming clearer day by day, then we are saved, and we are free!

“The infinite has no beginning,” writes Mrs. Eddy, in referring to the first verse of the Bible. “This word *beginning* is employed to signify *the only*,—that is, the eternal verity and unity of God and man, including the universe.”<sup>2</sup> We can stop frightening ourselves and distressing others with doubts about an unhappy past that is no part of us. The past has no hold on us. Our beginning is today.

<sup>1</sup> II Cor. 6:2; <sup>2</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 502.

## Values and confidence

The keynote of President Carter's recent televised speech to the American people was a call for rebirth of the nation's spirit and a revival of its values. Among various reasons that the President listed for what he saw as America's current malaise was a worship of "self-indulgence and consumption." Mr. Carter's remarks were directed to the American nation. But other industrialized, high-consumption countries also have to contend with the problems arising from preoccupation with materialistic goals and an erosion of ethical standards.

Only a bulwark of higher values—moral and spiritual ones—can enable the world to withstand the sociological, economic, and political challenges now buffeting it.

The foundations of Christian morality are rooted in the Ten Commandments and Christ Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. These codes have a purely spiritual base. Loving obedience to them strengthens the individual and the family, and consequently the community and the nation. Durable values demand our being conscious of the perfection and infinite goodness of God when we're making decisions regarding our ethical and financial affairs. This stifles the selfishness and fear that might otherwise stampede us.

In a reference to the great crises of nations and of the human race, Mrs. Eddy said in extempore remarks given at Sunday services one July 4: "It is then that supreme devotion to Principle has especially been called for and manifested. It is then that we learn a little more of the nothingness of evil, and more of the divine energies of good, and strive valiantly for the liberty of the sons of God."<sup>1</sup>

Fidelity to moral and spiritual values calls for surrendering human will and materialistic outlining, and letting God, rather than mortal stratagems of self-preservation, govern all one's decisions and actions. This does not mean stagnation, inactive waiting for something to happen, or the loss of anything of real value. On the contrary, such fidelity opens up the path of genuine progress and advancement, of unlimited opportunity for reflecting God's goodness and love, of true contentment and joy. It allies the individual with the forces of divine Mind, which is forever maintaining its spiritually affluent, ever-developing creation.

Working and praying in accordance with the moral and spiritual law, we rise above the narrow self-interest of mortal and material reasoning. Inevitably we bless our families, our co-workers, and our neighbors—near and far. Unselfed love, reflecting divine Love, radiates outward to embrace all.

President Carter spoke of a crisis of confidence among citizens of the U.S. and of a lack of faith in the future. Such crises need to be dealt with, and can be, in other countries as well.

As we adjust our outlook to what we know is true of God and man, we see the utter impossibility, in God's kingdom, of any lack of confidence. Infinite, omniactive Mind could never experience a crisis of doubt in its own all-power. It knows nothing of shortages, nonrenewable resources, scrambling for limited supplies, anxiety. These nagging suggestions projected by the carnal mind must be seen for what they are: illusive counterfeits of the spiritual facts of God's boundless provision and impartial grace.

Such Christianly scientific knowing brings forth the resourcefulness—and the resources—needed to rectify what is wrong in the human situation.

The Psalmist sang of the rewards that come from holding to true values and placing total confidence in God. He said: "How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures."<sup>2</sup>

We can go forward, buoyed by our confidence in God, in His infinite intelligence and tender love for all.

<sup>1</sup> *Miscellaneous Writings*, p. 176; <sup>2</sup> Ps. 36:7, 8.



# Editorials



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## The “what” and “how” of Christian Science

Given the emphasis placed by Christian Science on its practicality, we quite naturally want to know how Science works, how it can be demonstrated—and demonstrated better—by oneself.

The “how” of its teaching is inseparable from its “what.” In fact, the “what” comes before the “how.” Without some grasp of what divine Science *is*—God’s revelation of Himself—we might have difficulty in understanding how it *works*, and to see it work in our life in healing and spiritual progress.

If we should ever have difficulty with the questions, “How can I demonstrate Science more potently? How can I be more sure of healing results?” we should check our understanding of omnipresent divine reality.

The “how” is built into the “what.” The more clearly we see what Deity is, and the more precisely we see Spirit’s allness, the more we can comprehend the illusiveness of discord. Understanding that God is Mind, we grasp whatever spiritual facts we need for healing. We realize that the proof of the Science of Mind comes as we discern the nonconsciousness of mortal thought, this false consciousness being the source of illusive pictures of a physical man, and of a materially starred and planeted universe. Better health is the effect of living such metaphysical truths.

Prayer, or treatment, must be based on the “what” of Christian Science, the truth of God, man, and all creation. This men-

tal work does not rest on positive, optimistic human thinking. Scientific prayer is the realization of what God is and what man is. It involves feeling the goodness and substance of God. Prayer is the acknowledgment that all creation is God's impeccable manifestation. What Christian Science reveals is the immortal reality of being. Understanding and admitting this reality is the way to illustrate it in the everyday round.

In this compact paragraph Mary Baker Eddy points to the divine logic of what Science shows: "Mind is its own great cause and effect. Mind is God, omnipotent and omnipresent. What, then, of an opposite so-called science, which says that man is both matter and mind, that Mind is in matter? Can the infinite be within the finite? And must not man have preexisted in the All and Only? Does an evil mind exist without space to occupy, power to act, or vanity to pretend that it is man?"<sup>1</sup>

How might this logic be made practical? Take, for example, the way we can deal with fear in Science. How can we sap any control that fear seems to have of us or of someone we are treating spiritually? How diminish and eliminate anxiety?

Not through simply believing that Christian Science is true, or hoping the fear will soon go away of itself. But through growing in the understanding of what Science discloses of perfect being, and letting that disclosure buttress our whole approach to living. Conceding that "Mind is its own great cause and effect," we are tapping the source of limitless intelligence. And divine intelligence, permeating and constituting our consciousness, is the antidote of fear.

When faced with money problems, say, don't ask first of all, "How is Science going to work for me? How can it fix up things?" But ask, "What does this revealed Truth say of genuine substance, of the real wholeness and purpose of man?" Taking a strong hold of the "what" of Science, grappling with the basic questions it raises, accepting its answers, are the ways to better demonstrate God's love for man.

Christ Jesus did what he did because he knew what is true of God and man. The "how" of his tremendous works flowed from his understanding of God's law of eternal perfection. He said, "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work."<sup>2</sup> He knew where

divine power comes from, and where it is—everywhere. The whole basis of his healing work was his divinely originated spiritual consciousness.

The Bible is the Christian Scientist's primary, essential record of how God works in the world and in the lives of human beings. This book, which includes the biographies of such spiritual giants as Abraham, Joseph, Moses, and Paul, profoundly reinforces our conviction of the diverse ways that Truth operates. Woven throughout the book are statements and descriptions of divine Truth. The very first tenet of Christian Science is, "As adherents of Truth, we take the inspired Word of the Bible as our sufficient guide to eternal Life."<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Eddy's writings deal thoroughly with the scientific divine laws that underlie the Bible's rich evidence of the omnipotence of God.

Assimilation of the "what" of Christian Science is a demanding, continuing—and endlessly satisfying—job. The facets of Truth are numberless. In answer to the question "How can I progress most rapidly in the understanding of Christian Science?" Mrs. Eddy *begins* her reply, "Study thoroughly the letter and imbibe the spirit."<sup>4</sup>

A thorough study of the letter requires deeply thoughtful reading. Wrestling with concepts we do not yet apprehend well. Pursuing subjects that especially interest us until we cultivate whole new fields of understanding. Never being quite satisfied with our present grasp of Truth. Seeing the relationship between Science's divine import and its human application. Aiming for a coherent and unified sense of Science so all its elements fit together. Dropping merely traditional patterns of thought and phrases from our spiritual reasoning.

Hard work, usually. But basic and inescapable work if we would learn more of what divine Science is—and so practice it more effectively for ourselves and those who look to us for spiritual encouragement and healing.

GEOFFREY J. BARRATT

<sup>1</sup> *Miscellaneous Writings*, p. 173; <sup>2</sup> John 5:17; <sup>3</sup> *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 497; <sup>4</sup> *ibid.*, p. 495.



# Understanding that renews the body

"Charlie's lost another tooth," said the keeper at the open-air zoo in Florida. He sounded quite cheerful as he picked up a small, white object by the water's edge.

Charlie is a crocodile, and the keeper was not worried about the loss of the tooth because he knew that crocodiles quickly grow new ones. Similarly, a salamander will grow a new leg if it loses one, and a toucan will grow a new beak.

A question that perplexes human beings is, Why can't men and women grow a new limb, a new tooth, if one is needed? The answer is that it should be possible, and we would see more evidence of this renewal if people would open their thought to the possibility, instead of assuming that loss of any part of the body is final. Mrs. Eddy's words open up great possibilities: "When the unthinking lobster loses its claw, the claw grows again. If the Science of Life were understood, it would be found that the senses of Mind are never lost and that matter has no sensation. Then the human limb would be replaced as readily as the lobster's claw,—not with an artificial limb, but with the genuine one." <sup>1</sup>

In their search for understanding of the secrets of material life, biologists have recently been investigating the possibilities of bodily restoration in animals. They now report some success in promoting through electrical stimulation the growth and regeneration of frogs and rats so that they have grown whole new legs and arms. This has encouraged some doctors to predict that in a few years it will be possible for people to be medically treated in the same way for the growth of new limbs and organs.

It is interesting, though, that while these experiments have been going on with animals, two newborn human babies whose fingers were severed are known to have grown new ones without medical aid. This shows the human body to be naturally capable of regeneration—though *Saturday Review* also points to the centuries-old belief that the younger the creature, the more its body is able to renew itself.<sup>2</sup> The implication might be that ba-

bies do not hinder the restoration of their own bodies through limited thought any more than “the unthinking lobster.”

Yet we have biblical evidence that restoration of the body is a possibility for anyone, whatever his age, who is touched by the understanding of the Science of Life. When one of Christ Jesus’ followers cut off with his sword the right ear of the high priest’s servant, the Master “touched his ear, and healed him.”<sup>3</sup> And now, today, Christian Science assures us that as we cling to the understanding of the true facts of spiritual being taught by Jesus we will experience similar healings. When we know that the real man is eternally complete as God’s perfect, spiritual son, not a physical frame to be dismembered, the mortal sense of loss, deprivation, or incompleteness will disappear—be replaced by the consciousness of man’s spiritual completeness. This will be manifested in healing and, as our spiritual understanding grows, we will see limbs, organs—all parts of the body—perfectly renewed.

A boy of high-school age tells of a healing he had without medical help when he tangled his hand in a power lawn mower. One finger was seriously mashed, and to all appearances it seemed hopeless to think that the finger could ever recover.

However, this young man had been for many years a regular attendant in a Christian Science Sunday School, learning the facts of spiritual being in the Science of Life, so it was natural for him to expect healing. His mother and brother were on the spot immediately to give him support through prayer, and together they affirmed that there are no accidents in God’s universe. They declared that everything is governed by the divine Mind, and since God is in control of the entire universe, and man made by Him, there could be no discord, no loss, no pain, and no separation from any good thing. The hand was washed and lightly covered with a bandage; otherwise no physical remedy was applied.

Pain and shock were overcome in a matter of hours, but prayer was vigorously continued for several days. It was clearly seen that man is the individual, complete expression of divine Love and could never lose any part of his identity.

In two days the bandage was no longer needed to hide a muti-

lated hand. The finger had reshaped and was perfectly restored. Before long the nail grew again, and, as he proudly displayed his hand, one could not tell that anything had ever happened to it.

Healings such as this show that understanding the law of God releases a dynamic healing power in human experience. This power can be relied upon now, as in Jesus' time, to correct or renew any physical condition that needs correction or renewal. Mrs. Eddy says: "Working out the rules of Science in practice, the author has restored health in cases of both acute and chronic disease in their severest forms. Secretions have been changed, the structure has been renewed, shortened limbs have been elongated, ankylosed joints have been made supple, and carious bones have been restored to healthy conditions."<sup>4</sup>

"The rules of Science" we have to practice rest on the laws of God that we have to obey. The divine Father of all made man whole and perfect and keeps him in a state of health and harmony. As we stick to this spiritual fact and live in accord with it, we will surely see more bodily renewal taking place in ourselves and in those around us.

NAOMI PRICE

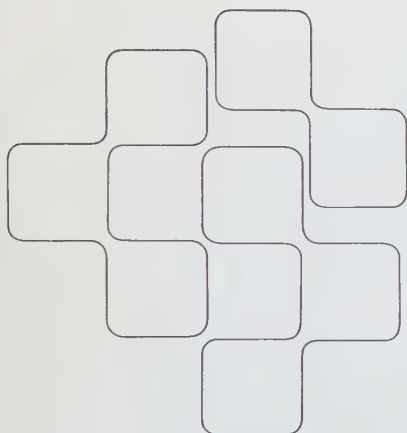
<sup>1</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 489; <sup>2</sup> See *Saturday Review*, July 8, 1978, pp. 8-11; <sup>3</sup> Luke 22:51; <sup>4</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 162.

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*Great multitudes came unto him,  
having with them those that were lame,  
blind, dumb, maimed, and many others,  
and cast them down at Jesus' feet;  
and he healed them:  
insomuch that the multitude wondered,  
when they saw the dumb to speak,  
the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see:  
and they glorified the God of Israel.*

Matthew 15:30, 31





"CAN I  
AFFORD TO  
COMMIT  
MYSELF TO  
CHRISTIANITY?"

Mary Baker Eddy, in her *Miscellaneous Writings*, tells a story that helps answer this question. And perhaps it relates to one's thoughts about joining The Mother Church, too.

"Admiral Coligny," she writes, "in the time of the French Huguenots, was converted to Protestantism through a stray copy of the Scriptures that fell into his hands. He replied to his wife, who urged him to come out and confess his faith, 'It is wise to count the cost of becoming a true Christian.' She answered him, 'It is wiser to count the cost of not becoming a true Christian.' "

Members of The Mother Church are committed to deep love and gratitude for Christ, Truth. They strive to embody this love in their lives. And they welcome your joining them in their commitment, whenever you feel ready.

You can get an application form from any branch church clerk, Christian Science Reading Room or Christian Science practitioner. Or write to:

Clerk of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist  
Christian Science Center, Boston, MA, U.S.A. 02115

# Don't take your life—give it

[Written for the **Sentinel**]

I once considered taking my own life. Thanks to Christian Science, I found good reasons not to.

I was nineteen and a college sophomore suffering all the misery so many people associate with being a teen-ager. Though I had been raised in the Christian Science Sunday School and exposed to the truth that man's identity is the reflection of a perfect God, I felt worthless and wanted to commit suicide. Why?

I was caught up in evaluating my success as an individual by human instead of spiritual standards. By all the usual measurements of success I was a failure. My academics were slipping drastically, my athletics were a disaster, and it seemed I'd bombed socially. Still worse, I felt all this was because I just was not good enough for God to love.

What a lie! Each of us is a flawless, spiritual conception of the all-loving Father-Mother. Paul writes, "In him we live, and move, and have our being."<sup>1</sup> You and I are the evidence of Mind revealing itself and Love continually expressing its infinite nature. Right now we're that expression.

The false definition of what and who I really was kept tightening its grip. At last, I felt so alienated from everyone around me that I decided to take my life. I pulled a shotgun out of my closet, loaded it, and held it in my hands just looking at it. There was a knock at the door of my room, and I put the gun away. There, in the doorway, stood a friend of mine who was a counselor at my school and a Christian Scientist. He said he had just dropped by to thank me for having recently challenged his thinking and given him a lift with my usual joking around.

It turned out that my mother, who was hundreds of miles away, had called him to say that she could tell from talking with me that something was wrong. By my friend's simply letting me know I had given him something, giving—not getting—began to be very important to me.

The next day I found a Christian Science pamphlet—one that changed my whole point of view. After reading it I knew that God loved me and that I could depend on His ever-present, invariable love for His idea, man. I later joined the Christian Science organization on campus and the next year served as Reader—a wonderful opportunity to give.

Giving in this way, I learned, reflects in some degree what God has already given us. Mrs. Eddy writes, “Wholly apart from this mortal dream, this illusion and delusion of sense, Christian Science comes to reveal man as God’s image, His idea, coexistent with Him—God giving all and man having all that God gives.”<sup>2</sup>

This is exactly what Christian Science has helped me do—realize the Christly blessings my Father-Mother has already given me and claim my only real inheritance as God’s child: peace, joy, and harmony.

You and I can both give our lives to God, praying to serve and glorify Him daily. This is true living, using the gift that God in His love for you has already given—eternal life in Love.

<sup>1</sup> Acts 17:28; <sup>2</sup> *The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, p. 5.

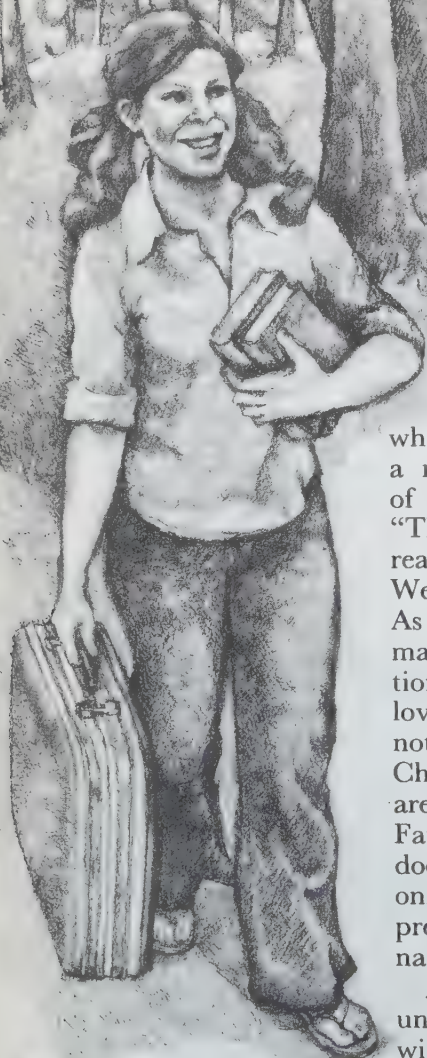
## A question of oneness

Silvia Brum

[Original in Portuguese]

I will always be grateful for a healing I had some time ago, which reaffirmed what we learn in Christian Science about the oneness—the inseparability—of God and man. This healing demonstrated that God’s creation is complete and harmonious.

Last summer I went to a camp for young Christian Scientists in Latin America, an experience extremely valuable to me for the lessons learned and friendships made. I would like to recount a great lesson I learned in the Sunday School at camp,



which made me see everything from a new angle. The teacher spoke of the oneness of man and God. "Then, if God is All-in-all—and He really is—where is man?" he asked. We discussed this at some length. As we talked, it became clear that man is the spiritual idea and reflection of God, living because He lives, loving because He is Love; man is not a separate, independent being. Christ Jesus said: "I and my Father are one"<sup>1</sup> and also declared, "The Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works."<sup>2</sup> God is the only Mind, and man constantly expresses this perfect, active, and eternal Mind.

As we become conscious of our unity with divine Mind, we do God's will and see it manifested. His will



sustains our well-being. When we are consciously at one with Love, we are capable of expressing this Love to every person we meet. The more we remain conscious of our coexistence with God, the more our thought will be a transparency through which Truth can appear and shine and manifest itself in action and spiritual growth. As the certainty that God is guiding us increases, we feel more joyful. Whatever seems discordant is eliminated, because there is no room for it in divine consciousness, where man lives.

We are always having opportunities to prove what we are learning, and this can provide great spiritual adventure. One day, a month after this discussion, I noticed something wrong with one of my eyes. I saw this as an opportunity to apply what I had learned in Sunday School about the eternal union of God and man, and to work from this basis.

I had almost finished reading our textbook, *Science and Health* by Mrs. Eddy, and I was on the last chapter, called "Fruitage," where I read many testimonies of healings of poor eyesight. I felt that God was leading me to inspiring references in the Bible and Mrs. Eddy's works and was enabling me to understand them.

Her metaphysical interpretation of the Bible term "eyes" in the Glossary provided the basis for this study. Part of it reads: "EYES. Spiritual discernment,—not material but mental."<sup>3</sup> My motive, then, was to discern spiritual reality, that is, understand it distinctly. I tried to express this spiritual discernment, which is given by God, in everything I read and thought; to discern man in his true nature as being one with God, and thus completely harmonious.

Christian Scientists all over the world study the weekly Bible Lessons, which contain citations from the Bible and from *Science and Health*. These Bible Lessons in the *Christian Science Quarterly* are also read at the Sunday church services. There are twenty-six weekly topics, and each one is studied twice a year.

The Bible Lesson for that week was on the subject "Soul." In the Bible I read: "For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known."<sup>4</sup> In *Science and Health* I read: "Soul, or

Spirit, is God, unchangeable and eternal; and man coexists with and reflects Soul, God, for man is God's image." <sup>5</sup>

To me, these citations together mean that it is certain that man coexists with God and reflects all the wholeness and purity of Soul, although at times we may not completely recognize this fact, because human consciousness "know[s] in part." In spite of this, as we understand a little of man's oneness with God, mental darkness dissipates, and we are happy because we know we have grown in understanding and are healed.

And that is what happened! In five days the healing was complete.

You, too, can confirm for yourself the joy of knowing that we are at one with God.

<sup>1</sup> John 10:30; <sup>2</sup> 14:10; <sup>3</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 586; <sup>4</sup> I Cor. 13:12; <sup>5</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 120.

## Higher standards— better friendships

Susan Gay Terrell

When I was growing up, it often seemed that my standards of right and wrong kept me from having many friends and restricted my social life. My parents didn't allow me to drink or smoke. As for the attitudes toward sex held by many of my classmates—I guess I had enough sense of my own to avoid getting mixed up in permissiveness.

Sometimes I felt that if my standards were a little different, and if I weren't a Christian Scientist, I would have more friends and more fun. But as the years passed, I began to be more and more grateful that I was a Christian Scientist—strong morals

and all. I realized these moral convictions gave my life a stability that others seemed to be searching for. I saw that chasing physical pleasure would only rob me of this stability.

Yet I still felt pretty lonely at times, and sometimes it was still a real challenge to do what I knew was right. So, not knowing where else to turn, I kept digging deeper into Christian Science to find a solution. As I did this, I began to get a clearer understanding of God's love for me and everyone. And it wasn't too long before I began respecting and appreciating myself more, as well as those around me. This was the turning point. This was what I had needed all along. As I began to love more, and as I gained a better view of myself and others, friendships just naturally developed. I realize now that there really had been no need for me to go through a period of loneliness.

What specifically does Christian Science teach that can help anyone maintain his or her standards—with no loss of fun or companionship?

First of all, it helps us recognize what right standards really are. The Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount build a foundation for morality in Christian Science. When asked by a lawyer, "Which is the great commandment in the law?" Christ Jesus answered: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. . . . And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."<sup>1</sup> Right standards must be based on our love for God. We show our love for God by consciously working to express His qualities—qualities like purity, truthfulness, intelligence, and health. Another way we prove our love for God is by loving our fellowman and by helping him to express God's qualities, too.

When deciding whether or not it is right to do something, we can ask ourselves, "Will this express God's qualities? In the long run will it bless everyone involved, or is it just an impulsive, willful thing that may seem satisfying at the moment?"

Mrs. Eddy assures us in *Miscellaneous Writings*, "He risks nothing who obeys the law of God, and shall find the Life that cannot be lost."<sup>2</sup> How important it is to remember, as we stand up for what we believe is right and take what may turn out to be an

unpopular stand, that God will certainly reward our sticking to His law! The blessings we realize in this way are infinitely more lasting and satisfying than any we could hope to gain by giving in to material-mindedness. And friendships based on spiritual values are a blessing to *everyone* involved.

Don't let yourself be fooled for a minute into thinking that your life would be better, that you would have more friends and more fun, if you traded in your moral standards. Mrs. Eddy also tells us: "Sensualism is not bliss, but bondage. For true happiness, man must harmonize with his Principle, divine Love; the Son must be in accord with the Father, in conformity with Christ."<sup>3</sup> Material pleasures are dreamlike; they never bring us lasting satisfaction. God is the source of all good, and as we continually turn to Him to supply us with whatever we need, as we trust Him with our desires, we'll find our lives richer in every way. So instead of feeling as if you're missing something, be confident that your obedience to God will be rewarded.

God's love is your continual source of security and companionship. Sometimes we may believe that security and companionship come to us from people, or from one person in particular. But real good, in whatever form it's humanly perceived, always comes to us from God. Jesus proved throughout his life that man's security is God-given. He taught his disciples: "Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? . . . Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows."<sup>4</sup> Sometimes we may find ourselves saying, "I'm sure God loves me, but I need something more tangible." Yet friendship is one tangible evidence of divine Love. We need to become more conscious of Love's complete provision for each one of His children, and then friendships that meet our needs will develop without any scheming or contriving.

An adage says, "To have a friend, you need to be a friend." God is the source of every quality you need to be a good friend. You reflect His love and kindness and generosity. Because God is continually using you to show forth His qualities, it is natural for you to express intelligence, beauty, true attractiveness, and the ability to communicate with ease. Your individuality isn't something created by parents or environment, nor is it some-



thing you yourself have evolved. It is created by God, so it can't possibly have a bad side or a shortcoming.

What about all the others around us—those we hope to be friends with? We need to recognize their spiritual individuality, too. All men and women, as God's ideas, are loving and lovable. All are upright, pure expressions of God. God's man doesn't express lust or hatred of Truth. He doesn't have a bunch of physical senses he has to keep satisfied. He is the eternally complete, satisfied reflection of Spirit. Because he is at one with divine Mind, without a personal mind or a personal will, his actions stem directly from God. We don't need to worry that obedience to God-inspired standards will be a hardship for others, or will leave them with the feeling that they are missing out on something. We can know that this obedience will be a joyful, rewarding experience for them, too.

I found that this clearer understanding of my spiritual identity and of the identities of those around me began to tear down the walls I thought had existed between us. I began to see that the result of good standards can only be good. Since then many lasting friendships have developed with people whose standards, though not always identical to mine, are similar.

Obedience to God is never a hindrance to freedom. It's the route to true happiness.

<sup>1</sup> Matt. 22:36, 37, 39; <sup>2</sup> *Mis.*, p. 211; <sup>3</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 337; <sup>4</sup> Luke 12:6, 7.

# Testimonies of Christian Science Healing

In my late teens I was hospitalized for a nervous breakdown and then sent to a rehabilitation center for alcoholism. It wasn't long before I was seriously contemplating suicide.

I had many reasons for believing that there was satisfaction in alcohol. I felt it relaxed me, helped me get over my shyness and fear, and also helped me forget all my guilt feelings. Much of this guilt stemmed from the premarital sexual relations that I was engaged in at the time. I had thought I could find happiness through the sexual sharing, but instead I lost respect for myself.

Dancing was what I had studied since I was a young girl, but I was unable to work, since I was so often under the influence of alcohol. So, I would borrow money to support my drinking.

On the advice of a social worker I sought help at a rehabilitation center. The psychologist there told me that I was mentally and emotionally retarded. It was recommended that I go to a halfway house in a distant city to learn a trade, and begin attending meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous. The psychologist believed that I was overly dependent on my mother and that I needed to be away from her in order to learn how to live.

I went home more depressed than ever. The people at the rehabilitation center told my mother that I would just continue

## **Teen healed of alcoholism and nervous breakdown**

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The statements made in these testimonies with regard to healings have been carefully verified. The original testimonies and their respective verifications are on file for reference with The Christian Science Publishing Society. -THE EDITORS.

drinking unless I left home and her influence and began coping with my own life. And at first they appeared to be right—until I came to my senses and had my mother call a Christian Science practitioner.

I had attended Christian Science Sunday School somewhat sporadically from the age of three. I am grateful I had this teaching, for when it seemed as if I had reached the bottom—I was thinking of taking my life—I did have somewhere to turn. I visited the practitioner regularly for over a year and a half. She spoke of how much God loves me, and gradually fear and dread were replaced with a calm, clear, joyful outlook. I began reading the Bible Lesson in the *Christian Science Quarterly* and attending church services in a local branch church. The change in me was like night and day.

Before long I secured a job with a small dance troupe and had a successful tour through Europe the next summer. I was completely healed of a desire for and indulgence in alcohol, tobacco, diet pills, and sexual promiscuity. My character is completely changed, and my mother and I have a wonderful relationship. I have a love for living I'd never known before, and suggestions of suicide are gone. Lack has also given place to more than enough of whatever is needed to meet my needs.

Mary Baker Eddy writes in *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* (p. 224): "Truth brings the elements of liberty." I know it was God who took me out of bondage. I have so much gratitude for Christian Science. It has saved my life.

APRIL GILMORE  
New York, New York

I would like to verify my daughter's testimony.

This past year I feel as if I have witnessed one miracle after another—not just in the beautiful healing of my daughter, and our improved relationship, but in the blessings all the members of our family have received as a result.

I can never be grateful enough to Christian Science and to our beloved Leader, Mrs. Eddy, for improving our lives to such a degree.

AMELIA GILMORE

One time, during my teen years, the open truck in which I was standing suddenly rounded a corner. I was thrown out, striking my head with full force on the pavement. Several of those in the truck, including the driver, attended the same Christian Science Sunday School as I. Knowing that it would be my family's desire to rely wholly on Science for help in this situation, they quickly gathered me up, in an unconscious state, and took me home.

My mother, seeing the seriousness of my condition, called a Christian Science practitioner, who came immediately to our house. I was only semiconscious but

**Sunday School training  
proves priceless**

remember the practitioner sitting on the side of my bed. She emphatically declared spiritual truths, so familiar to me from my Sunday School teaching, concerning God and His tender love for each of His children.

Later in the night there was a crisis with signs that I was passing on. The practitioner, who had returned to her home, was again called. She asked my mother to sing those hymns from the *Christian Science Hymnal* with words by our beloved Leader, Mrs. Eddy. One called "Mother's Evening Prayer" begins (No. 207):

O gentle presence, peace and joy and power;  
O Life divine, that owns each waiting hour,  
Thou Love that guards the nestling's faltering  
flight!

Keep Thou my child on upward wing tonight.

Soon my mother noticed I was breathing gently and was sound asleep. I woke early the next morning. Filled with joy, I dashed to the practitioner's home to tell her I was completely healed and on my way to school!

Christian Science Sunday School training from an early age has proved priceless. In the years since, the thoughtful instruction I received has enabled me to heal physical ills and to solve financial, business, and moral problems.

Recently I was troubled with a discomfiting condition of eczema. At this time I was appointed to serve my branch church in a capacity requiring a great deal of time and thought.



One day, while earnestly contemplating the healing work of Christ Jesus, it occurred to me more clearly than ever that the same truths Jesus demonstrated, which instantaneously healed the sick and suffering, were eternally present. These truths could be relied on at any time or place to destroy error. Time and place do not affect the healing power of Truth, and it is just as potent now as it has been or ever will be.

In minutes I realized that the agonizing itch, which had plagued me for months, had stopped. And within two days all evidence of the condition had completely and permanently vanished.

ROBERT C. BRAMAN  
San Rafael, California



Over a period of eighteen years, a solid spiritual foundation was laid in my life. This was accomplished through the love, patience, skill, and originality of numerous teachers in the Christian Science Sunday School. That foundation has withstood many tremors, and I have reason to feel profoundly grateful for the organization of the Christian Science Sunday School and its capable teachers.

In one of my early classes we memorized each week's Golden Text from the *Christian Science Quarterly*. That stock of Bible verses continues to give me aid and inspiration. The Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, and the Lord's Prayer, also learned by heart, were added to my treasures. But, without doubt, the most valuable gift we received from our teachers was the training to reason and pray for ourselves. Through study of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mrs. Eddy, we learned how to search the Bible and extract the timeless spiritual message, which can be applied to today's problems with swift healing results.

In my first class we were encouraged to take control of our own thoughts and shown how to keep them spiritually pure. We learned to pray to God, our loving Parent, and to heal ourselves by understanding simple spiritual truths.

When I was still very small, the trusting affirmation that I was God's perfect child quickly restored harmony after any mishap. Confronted with a difficulty at the age of seven, I challenged the lie with conviction, using Christ Jesus' firm rebuke, "Get thee behind me, Satan" (Matt. 16:23). My healing of badly inflamed eyes was immediate. I returned at once to school, where I was examined by the school medical officer. Only a few hours earlier he had sent me home with a message instructing my parents to take me to an oculist to be fitted for glasses. Now he confirmed my complete healing.

During my teen-age years, it was only with great perseverance and determination that I could regularly attend the Sunday School. But the more I learned of Christian Science and applied its teachings, the more I wanted to continue.

**Exam written  
with authority**

That hour on Sunday had become the most precious in the week. Because of the sound spiritual training I was receiving, I was able to resolve problems of human relationships, sickness, and fear of academic examinations. I resisted the few temptations to resort to material means, since spiritual healing had never failed me, and I considered it to be superior to all other methods. It was so wonderful to be free—to have a sound base of dominion and security in God.

During my late teens, while I was taking a national civil service examination, I was confronted with a paper on a subject totally unfamiliar to me. With complete confidence I turned to God for help. Immediately I thought of this statement (*Science and Health*, pp. 518–519): "Nothing is new to Spirit. Nothing can be novel to eternal Mind, the author of all things, who from all eternity knoweth His own ideas." This marvelous and quick answer to my prayer gave me a wonderful assurance that God, divine Mind, was present and operating. With calmness, I worked through all the examination papers, writing with an authority that came solely from my conviction of my unity with God, the source of all true knowledge. The result was successful.

In the *Manual of The Mother Church* Mrs. Eddy concludes her provision for the Sunday School with these words (Art. XX,

Sect. 3): "The instruction given by the children's teachers must not deviate from the absolute Christian Science contained in their textbook." I am grateful that those who instructed me, aided by the Bible and *Science and Health*, did so with just such spiritual purity. Their efforts fulfill the verses in Proverbs (24:3, 4): "Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: and by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches."

CHRISTINA ELIZABETH BENTINCK  
Zug, Switzerland



Once when my brother and I were playing a long time ago, I fell backward and injured my arm. It hurt a lot. I thought it must be broken, and there was a big lump. My mother helped me with the truths we learn in Christian Science. I knew that an idea of Love and Truth cannot be broken.

The next day the hurting was all gone but not the lump. We kept praying. That night before I went to bed I thought about it a lot. I knew that I was really the image of God, and that nothing in God's image can be injured. I fell asleep thinking about this, and the next day the lump had disappeared. I was healed!

**I thought a lot  
about God**

I am really grateful to be a student of Christian Science. It has helped me very much, and I have had many healings.

DAN MARION GIBSON  
Jackson, Mississippi

It is a great joy for me to verify my son's healing, which I witnessed. It happened just as he has related it. How grateful we are that Christian Science came to our family when Dan was just a baby. When difficulties have arisen, they have been healed solely through Christian Science treatment.

FRANCES M. GIBSON

My gratitude for Christian Science dates back to my childhood. I cannot be too grateful for a mother who steadfastly loved this Science and guided me to love it too, and for my teachers in the Christian Science Sunday School.

While attending a university, I was doing student teaching at a local high school. As I walked to the school I prayed, seeing and loving my students as ideas of God. One day to save time, I cut across an empty lot. It was hilly, and a portion of it was not visible from the street.

At the halfway point I was confronted by two ragged and unkempt young males about the age of my students. They did not speak, but they barred my way. However, I was unafraid. To me they were part of the young people I was praying to see as God's perfect children. I told them I was going to meet a class at the high school and that I could not be late. First one, then the other, quietly stepped aside, and I continued on.

### **Schoolteacher confronts lies about teens**

Later I realized that spiritualization of thought had freed me from fear. I am convinced that my protection and lack of fear were the result of my daily study of the Bible Lesson in the *Christian Science Quarterly*, daily reading of the periodicals, and frequent study at the Christian Science Reading Room.

When I was teaching in a small high school, a number of students became ill with influenza, and there were rumors of a school closure. The next day I felt ill with the symptoms of this disease, and by the end of my first class I could hardly hold up my head. When my second class came, I gave them a written assignment for the period. Then I went to a far corner of the large room, turned my back to the class, and prayed earnestly.

I had had Christian Science class instruction the previous summer, and I now felt convinced I could use the truths learned then to overcome this problem. I recalled a paragraph from *Science and Health* by Mrs. Eddy, which begins (p. 495): "When the illusion of sickness or sin tempts you, cling steadfastly to God and His idea. Allow nothing but His likeness to abide in your thought." I contemplated this passage the whole period. Before



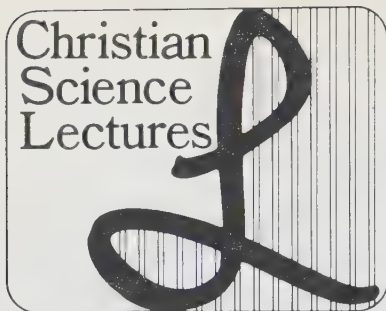
I knew it, the hour was over and I was perfectly well. I felt so good I wanted to dance and sing!

My prayer for myself also affected the action of the class. I have found that when I've turned completely and understandingly to God, all details of a problem are taken care of. This class had tended to be noisy and boisterous, and normally I would not have turned my back to them. But during the hour that I prayed, they were quiet and in perfect control. The next day many of the students who had been ill returned, and there was no more talk of school closure.

All my life I have felt God's guidance, love, and care. When I was out of work during the economic depression of the thirties, a Christian Science practitioner helped me see that God's children do not compete—they are in perfect accord. I obtained a job, and since that time I have never lacked employment when I needed it, and I have had a full sense of abundance as well.

I am grateful for the wonderful newspaper, *The Christian Science Monitor*, and for the *Christian Science Sentinel* and *The Christian Science Journal*. The articles in these periodicals have often been my meat and drink and have literally sustained me.

MARGUERITE W. NELSON  
Fall City, Washington



Everyone is cordially invited to these free lectures.

‡ Indicates Children's Room available during lectures.

\* If details such as time, place, title, or child care facilities are missing from a church's listing, please see local publicity.

## AUSTRALIA

**NEW SOUTH WALES—Sydney** (First): Church, Forbes and Liverpool sts, Darlinghurst, 8pm, Tues, Oct 9, "Why Spiritual Healing?" (McClain)

**Sydney** (Third): Fri, Oct 12, "Where in the World Is God?" (McClain)\*

**QUEENSLAND—Brisbane** (Second): Cinema Theatre, Toombul Shopping Town, Toombul, 8pm‡, Mon, Oct 8, "Why Spiritual Healing?" (McClain)

**Toowoomba**: Sun, Oct 7, "Where in the World Is God?" (McClain)\*

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA—North Brighton** (First, Brighton): Auditorium, Brighton High School, 305 Brighton rd, 8pm‡, Thurs, Sept 27, "Where in the World Is God?" (McClain)

**VICTORIA—Melbourne** (First): Lower Town Hall, Swanston st, 12.45pm‡, Tues, Oct 2, "Why Spiritual Healing?" (McClain)

## FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

**Backnang**: Church, Stuttgarterstr 67, 7.30pm‡, Tues, Sept 18, In German, "The Royal Law" (Timpson)

**Hamm**: Aula, Pestalozzi-Schule, Feidikstr 27, 4pm‡, Sun, Sept 16, In German, "The Royal Law" (Timpson)

**Stuttgart**: Liederhalle, Mozartsaal, Berliner Platz 1, 7.30pm, Thurs, Sept 20, In German, "The Royal Law" (Timpson)

## ENGLAND

**ESSEX—Chelmsford**: Thurs, Oct 18 (Henderson)\*

**GREATER MANCHESTER—Manchester** (Second): Fri, Oct 12, "Justice Under God's Care" (Henderson)\*

**KENT—Rochester** (joint lecture): Sun, Oct 7, "The Glory of Spiritual Evolution" (Henderson)\*

**LANCASHIRE—Blackburn**: 3pm, Sun, Oct 14 (Henderson)\*

**WILTSHIRE—Swindon**: Hall, Clarence Street School, Euclid st, 3.15pm‡, Sun, Oct 21 (Henderson)\*

## NORTHERN IRELAND

**COUNTY ANTRIM—Belfast**: Thurs, Oct 11, "Justice Under God's Care" (Henderson)\*

## REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

**COUNTY DUBLIN—Dublin** (Second): Tues, Oct 9, "Use Your Spiritual Power" (Henderson)\*

## UNITED STATES

(Week of August 26 to September 1)

**INDIANA—Hammond**: Church, 7125 Hohman av, 8pm‡, Thurs, Aug 30, "Prayer Is Effective in Our Economy" (Leever)

**MICHIGAN—Battle Creek**: Church, 226 Capital av, NE, 8pm‡, Tues, Aug 28, "Prayer Is Effective in Our Economy" (Leever)

**East Tawas**: Community bldg, 105 Newman st, 3.30pm‡, Sun, Aug 26, "Prayer Is Effective in Our Economy" (Leever)

**NEW YORK—Millerton**: Church, Century blv, 3.30pm‡, Sun, Aug 26, "God Is Your Provider" (Alton)

[These lectures are given by members of the Board of Lectureship of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.]

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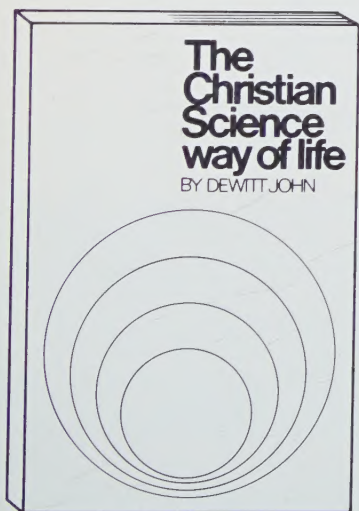
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